

"Extract from Entry from Marquis KIDO's Diary. 13 Oct /41"

October 13th. 1941 (Extract)

.....SUZUKI, President of the Planning Board, visited me at 8 p.m. to talk about his political views which might contribute in some way to the making of a new turn in our political condition. I expressed my opinion to him. Our conclusion of the talk was this: The Premier should make an effort to promote mutual understanding with the War and Navy Ministers.

Doc 1632W (78)

1. Ex 1149

木戸侯爵日記

昭和十六年十月十三日

十月十三日 (月) 晴

午前九時長松君來邸面談

十時出勤

十時二十分松平官相來室神嘗祭御告文ニツキ
相談アリ贊成ス

十時三十五分ヨリ十一時四十五分迄日米問題
ヲ中心ニ種々御物語アリ其ノ中左ノ如キ御話
アリタリ

一時今ノ情況ニテハ日米交渉ノ成立ハ漸次望
ミ薄クナリタル様思ハル處眞一戰戰トナルガ
如キ場合ニハ今度ハ宣戰ノ詔勅ヲ發スルコト
ナルベシ其ノ場合今迄ノ詔書ニツイテ見ルニ
聯盟脫退ノ際ニモ特ニ文武格從ト世界平和ト
云フコトニ就テ述ベタノデアアルガ國民ハドウ
モ此點ヲ等閑シテ居ル様ニ思ハレル又日獨
伊三國同盟ノ際ノ詔書ニ就テモ平和ノ爲メト
云フコトガ忘レラレ如何ニモ英米ニ對抗スル
カノ如ク國民カ考ヘテ居ルノハ誠ニ面白クナ
ト思フ就テハ今度宣戰ノ詔書ヲ出ス場合ニハ

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2.

是非近衛ト木戸モ珍加シテ貰ツテ皆ト自分ノ氣持ヲ述ベテ之ヲ取リ入レテ貰ヒタイト思フ

一覽米英戰ヲ決意スル場合ニハ尙一層歐洲ノ情勢殊ニ英獨、獨ソ、ノ和平說等ヲ中心トスル見

透シ及ビ獨ノ單獨ノ和平ヲ對シ日米戰ニ協力セシムルコトニツキ外交ニ涉ノ必要アリ、又戰爭

終結ノ場合ノ手段ヲ初メヨリ充分考究シ置クノ要アルベクソレニハローマ法皇讓トノ使臣ノ交

渉等親善關係ニツキ方策ヲ構ツルノ要アルベシニ時近衛首相參内拜謁後三時ヨリ四時頃迄日米

問題ヲ中心ニ懸談ス

五時豐田外相拜謁後五時半頃ヨリ六時半頃迄面談ス

八時鈴木總裁來邸政局ノ緊迫ヲ憂慮シ打聽策ニツキ種々話アリ余モ意見ヲ述ブ要スルニ首相ハ

一變ト海相陸相ト輕合ヒヲ更ネ打聽ニ導クノ要アルベシト述ブ

6x1150

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1.

木戸侯爵日記

昭和十六年十月十五日分

十月十五日(水)

晴

午前九時館氏來訪面談

午前九時半企畫院總裁鈴木中將來
訪東條陸相ノ意向ヲ傳達セラル概
要左ノ如シ近衛首相ニシテ標意セ
サル限り政變ハ避ケ難キモノト思
ハル之カ後任ニ就テハ誰レ々々ト
名刺スコトハ如何ト思ハル、カ原
則論ヲ爲セバ聖上ノ御意ヲ隔テナ
ク拜承シ得ルコト陸海軍ヲ纏メ得
ルコトノ二資格ヲ必要トス此ノ點
ヨリ見テ臣下ニハ人ナク結局東久
通官殿下ノ御出馬ヲ煩ハスノ外ナ
カルベシ云々

余ハ事皇室ニ關スルコトナレバ慎
重ナル考慮ヲ要ス尙右御出馬ヲ願
フ場合ニハ事前ニ陸海一致ノ方針
即チ自重的ノ方針ノ決定セラレル
コトガ先決必須ノ問題ナリ此ノ見
透ハ確實ナリヤト問ヒ尙充分研究

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2

ノ要アルベキ旨ヲ答フ
由喜子・佳紀子ヲ伴ヒ來訪久振リニ
元氣ナル顔ヲ見ル
午前十一時出勤近衛首相來室久
通官邸下御出馬云々ハ如何トノコ
トナリシ故尙考究中ナル旨ヲ答フ
尙松平秘書官長ニ真一右ノ案ヲ實
行ノ場合ノ手續カド研究ヲ依頼ス
一時十五分ヨリ二時迄拜謁政情急
迫ノ事情ヲ言上ス
二時山崎警視總監來廳政情ヲ聽ク
四時近衛首相參内來室刻下ノ政情
ニ就キ、陸軍大臣トノ關係著シク
緊張ヲ見ルニ至リ陸相ハ日米交渉
見透ノ問題ニツキ此上首相ト會見
スルトキハ感情的トナルノ虞アリ
好マストノ意ヲ獲スニ至リシヲ以
テ到底此種政治ヲ擔當シ行クコト
能ハズ就テハ真久通官邸下御出馬
之ニハ如何トノ話ナリシ故余ハ大
体朝鈴木總裁ニ語リタル意見ヲ述
ベ尙一條陸相ガ海軍協調ノ爲メ
政策轉回ニ同意シタルモノナリヤ

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3.

或ハ皇族ニ此困難ナル問題ヲ御解決願
フ意思ナリヤ不分限ナル點アルヲ以テ
先ツ之ヲ確メ置クコトノ必要ヲ認メ鈴木
木總裁ニ電話ヲ以テ來訪ヲ求ム
近衛首相拜謁中余ハ皇族ニ關スル問
題ナレバ松平宮相ヲ其室ノ訪ヒ今朝ヨ
リノ経緯ヲ話ス宮相ハ驚キタル様子ナ
リシカ意見ハ此際皇族ノ御出馬ニハ反
對ナリキ
四時半鈴木總裁來訪東條陸相ノ真意ニ
ツキ尋ネタルモ遂ニ要領ヲ得ズ依ツテ
至急確ニ貰フコトトス近衛首相モ御前
ヲ退下シ來室参加セラル首相ハ右ノ案
ヲ言上シタルニ陸海軍一致ニテ平和ノ
方針ニ決定セルナレバ萬不得止事情ナ
レバ致方ナシトノ意味ノ御話アリタリ
トノ話アリタリ、
首相トハ五時半頃迄ハ種々政局ノ拾収
ニツキ懇談ス
夜至リ鈴木總裁ヨリ東條陸相ト會見ノ
結果ニツキ電話ニテ話アリ右ニヨレバ
首相ノ考ヘハ事前ニ陸海軍ノ協同ヲ策

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4

言上長

ハルニアラバ一ニ皇族ノ御力ニヨリ
之ヲ行ハントスルモノナルコト異
ニ推崇セラル之ニテハ直ニ贊意ヲ表
スルコト能ハザルナリ
又首相ヨリ電話ニテ真久通殿下ニ拜
謁ヲ願ヒ御内話被シ置キ御旨語アリ
余トシテハ稍々時期尙早トハ考ヘラ
レタルモ右ハ政府ノ責任ニ於テ行フ
以上異議ナキ旨ヲ答フ夜半ニ至リ拜
謁ノ結果ノ報告アリ右ニヨレバ殿下
ヘ二三日考慮シタク且ツ陸軍大臣、
内大臣ノ面談シタシトノ御希望ナリ
シ由ナリ
五時三十五分ヨリ同五十分迄拜謁真
久通官殿下ノ件ニツキ首相ノ言上ニ
對シテノ御考ヘヲ承ル
六時半鶴子孝澄來訪中ノ御子サシ同
件松平侯邸ニ至リ小松侯夫人ト共ニ
晚餐ノ御趣走ニセラル
由喜子美子一泊ス

Corrected in accordance with Language
Board decision, as shown on Court
Record 11,141-2

Doc. Div.

"Extract from Entry from Marquis KIDO's Diary, 16 Oct 41"

At 8:30 a.m. President SUZUKI visited me, and we discussed the Prince's Cabinet. The reasons I gave him for opposing the Prince's Cabinet are as follows:

1. The formation of a Prince's Cabinet should be carried out only when unavoidable, for example, when, even if the Army and Navy agree, force of circumstance makes it necessary to have a Prince of the blood solve their difficulties.
2. According to what developed last night, the difficulties have not been solved, and a member of the Imperial family should never be asked to overcome these obstacles.
3. In a way the formation of this Prince's Cabinet would indicate that we lacked a suitable person among our subjects, and a great problem would be created if war with the U.S.A. were to break out when such a Cabinet existed. There were important reasons why even Prince Konoze was prevented from carrying out the policies decided at Councils in the Imperial presence, and if we ask a member of the Imperial House to assume a responsibility he cannot fulfill, it would cause the Imperial House to become an object of public hatred.

At 3:00 p.m. War Minister TOJO called on me to report on the pressing political situation. I opposed his idea of the Prince's Cabinet for the same reasons which I had made clear to SUZUKI. I pointed out that the decisions made at the Imperial Conference on September 6 were rather careless and I urged the revision of the resolution of the Council in the Imperial presence, and I also stressed the necessity of a true unity between the Army and the Navy. I stressed the fact that this was the least our country is asking for without which no national progress could be expected.

At 4 p.m. Prince KONOYE telephoned to say that the Cabinet was going to resign 'en bloc'. I was astonished by the suddenness of this announcement. I visited the Emperor at 4 p.m. to report upon the general resignation of the KONOYE Cabinet. At 5 p.m. Prince KONOYE tendered the Cabinet Minister's resignations to the Throne. I was received in audience by the Emperor from 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. to answer his questions regarding the succeeding Cabinet.

FILE COPY
RETURN TO ROOM 361

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2. The difficulties which were discussed last night have not been solved, and the Prince should not be expected to overcome them.

3. In a way the formation of this Prince's Cabinet would indicate that we lacked a suitable person among our subjects, and a great problem would be created if war with the U.S.A. were to break out when such a Cabinet existed. There were important reasons why even Prince Konoze was prevented from carrying out the policies decided at Councils in the Imperial presence, and if we ask a member of the Imperial House to assume a responsibility he cannot fulfil, it would cause the Imperial House to become an object of public hatred.

At 3:00 p.m. War Minister TOJO called on me to report on the pressing political situation. I opposed his idea of the Prince's Cabinet for the same reasons which I had made clear to SUZUKI. I urged the revision of the resolution of the Council in the Imperial presence, and a unified policy for the Army and the Navy, two fundamental factors without which no national progress could be expected.

At 4 p.m. Prince KONOYE telephoned to say that the Cabinet was going to resign 'en bloc'. I was astonished by the suddenness of this announcement. I visited the Emperor at 4 p.m. to report upon the general resignation of the KONOYE Cabinet. At 5 p.m. Prince KONOYE tendered the Cabinet Ministers' resignations to the Throne. I was received in audience by the Emperor from 5:30 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. to answer his questions regarding the succeeding Cabinet.

I pointed out that the discussion made at the Imperial Conference on Sept. 6th were rather careless, and I urged --

十月十六日(木)

晴

午前八時半鈴木總裁來訪、皇族内閣云々ノ
話アリシヲ以テ昨日來熟考シタルトコロ、
ニヨリ大要左ノ如キ理由ニヨリ反論ナル旨
ヲ明瞭ニス

一 皇族ノ御出馬ヲ願フハ萬不得止場合ニテ
例ヘバ陸海軍ニ於テ意見ハ一致シタルモ
行滞リアリ皇族ノ御力ニスガリ解決シタ
シト云フガ如キ場合ナレバ或ハ實現ノ可
能性ナキニアラザルモ

一 昨夜來ノ話ニテハ難問題ハ未解決ノ儘ニ
テ此ノ打斷策ヲ皇族ニ御願スルト云フハ
絶對ニ不可ナリ

一 一面ニ於テハ臣下ニ人ナキカト云フコト
ニモナルベク又萬一皇族内閣ニテ日米戰
ニ突入スルガ如キ場合ニハ之ハ重大ニテ
即チ近衛首相カ御前會議ニテ決定シタル
方針ヲ敢テ實行シ能ハザリシ程重要ナル
何等カノ理由アル此ノ問題ヲ皇室ノ一員
タル皇族ヲシテ實行セシメラレ萬一豫期
ノ結果ヲ得ラレザルトキハ皇室ハ國民ノ
怨府トナルノ虞アリ

Ex 1151
Dec 1632W (80)
1.

Doc 1632W(80)

2.

十時出勤

十時二十分ヨリ十一時十分迄拜謁急迫セル

政情ニツキ言上ス

十二時半支那大使ニ御陪食仰付ラル陪席ス

二時豊田外相來室對米交渉其他ニツキ懇談ス

二時半河合大將ノ告別式ニ参列ス

三時東條總相來室政情ノ急迫セルコトニツ

キ話アリ東久通官以下云々ノ話アリ余ハ鈴木總裁ニ述べタル處ヲ以テ反論ノ意ヲ明ニス尙九月六日御前會議決定ノ不用意ナル點アルコト此際御前會議決定ヲ再検討スルノ要アルコト及ビ陸海軍ノ眞ノ一致ノ必要ヲ力説之ハ我國ノ最小限度ノ要求ニシテ之ナクシテハ國家ノ發展ハアリ得ザルコトヲ述べ

四時近衛公ヨリ閣僚ノ辭表ヲ取置メタル旨電話アリ餘リ突然ナルニ感ク

四時ヨリ同十五分迄拜謁内閣總辭職云々ヲ言上ス

五時近衛首相參内辭表ヲ呈呈ス

五時半ヨリ同四十五分迄拜謁後内閣ニ出シ御下問ヲ拜ス